

VERTICAL FILE

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LIBRARY OF THE  
AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION  
NEWS LETTER

No. III

from the  
Junior College Libraries Section  
of the  
Association of College and Reference Libraries  
A division of the  
American Library Association

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Chairman: Wave L. Noggle, In. Virginia Jr. Coll., Virginia, Minn.  
Secretary: Mary H. Clay, In. Jr. Coll. Div., Louisiana State Univ. Monroe, La.  
Director: Lois E. Engleman, Ass't to the In., Wellesley Coll., Wellesley, Mass.

This News Letter is being sent to the libraries of all junior colleges as listed in the Junior College Journal as well as to all the members of the Junior College Libraries Section of the A.C.R.L. As in the past, this is being done about once a year for the purpose of letting all librarians in the junior college field know some of the things that are going on professionally. The information in this issue has been compiled by the officers of the section, but we are hoping in the near future to have a committee take charge of this work.

A. L. A. | Word has been received that the annual conferences of the A.L.A. will  
CONVENTION | be resumed again in 1946. The convention this coming year will be  
1946 | held at Buffalo, June 17-22. This means that our section will resume  
its meetings as well as its annual election of officers at that time.  
The mid-winter meetings at the Drake Hotel in Chicago also have been resumed.  
The dates for this year's meeting are December 27-30.

In our section it is the custom to have the present secretary become the chairman so that Miss Mary Clay will be our next chairman. Therefore it will be necessary to elect a secretary to fill her place. A nominating committee is being appointed to select candidates for that office.

LIBRARY | About the first of October, Paul Howard, formerly the chairman of  
DEVELOPMENT | the A. L. A. Federal Relations Committee, began on a full time ap-  
FUND | pointment in Washington as the representative of A. L. A. His work is  
in connection with all matters pertaining to any type of library  
which may need administrative or legislative attention at our national capitol.  
It will be Mr. Howard's duty to represent the Junior College Libraries Section as  
well as any other group. It will not be possible for him to represent indi-  
vidual libraries in any capacity. However, opinions from individuals upon  
various matters will be appreciated by him. His address is A. L. A. office, 1709  
M. St. N. W., Washington 6, D.C.

He is in Washington as a result of the success, so far, of the Library Development Fund campaign which has been in progress during the past spring and summer and is still going on. It is hoped that any librarian who so far has not contributed toward the Development Fund will do so in the near future so that the last \$35,000 can be obtained.

Mr. Howard is holding a very important post in connection with the A.L.A., and his efforts in Washington are certain to be very beneficial to libraries and librarians all over the country. As chairman of the Federal Relations Committee of the A.L.A., he was able to do much for libraries in general, and in his new post, he will have more time to devote to that work and will be able to do much more for the library profession.

In a letter dated October 11, 1945, to the chairman of the Junior College Libraries Section Mr. Howard stated:



"As an example of one phase of the work which will help Junior College libraries I have already talked with George Beauchamp in the Bureau of the Budget. He is establishing an office to aid in systematizing the publication and distribution of government documents and I have agreed to help him in suggesting policies and procedures for his work. You might conclude that this will eventually aid Junior College libraries considerably.

"I will also be working on surplus property, educational facilities, book post, and many other items which affect the welfare of Junior College libraries. Next week I will attend a series of conferences concerning training and other films. College libraries of all types should benefit from representation at these meetings."

**CONFERENCE IN PRINT** | The College and Research Libraries for September had as a supplement, Conference in Print, 1945; communication--cooperation. This as the preface explains, is "in lieu of the annual conference of college and reference librarians, which is devoted to a discussion of common problems. . ." The material in the issue was gathered by a committee, chosen from the A.C.R.L., of which Dr. E. W. McDiarmid, librarian of the University of Minnesota Library, was the chairman. The committee met in Chicago during the summer of 1944 to draw up plans.

The leading articles in the Conference in Print, 1945 were prepared by Harold D. Lasswell and Robert B. Downs. A discussion on these papers is given by a number of other prominent librarians in the field. The entire publication is well worth the consideration of junior college librarians.

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON A.L.A.** | On May 18, 1945, Mr. Carl Vitz, the president of the American Library Association at that time, sent out a letter which some of you may have seen. Attached to it was a series of questions and answers on A.L.A. The purpose, of course, was to acquaint more people with the activities of the A.L.A. as a professional organization. Of the twenty six questions and answers, two are quoted below, that are especially worthwhile to us as junior college librarians. Mr. Vitz has given his permission to quote verbatim any that we wish to use. Lack of space prohibits the inclusion of others.

11. "What does the A.L.A. do for the individual member?  
To each member the Association offers information and advisory services of the headquarters staff; provides the essential books of professional interest by means of a non-profit cooperative publishing program; provides, for those who wish to take advantage of it, a sound retirement plan designed for librarians; maintains personnel records and when requested recommends librarians for positions; sets standards for personnel and administration; and in peace times it holds national conferences where librarians meet together for business and pleasure. It publishes the A.L.A. Bulletin, and a directory of members in the Handbook, and offers affiliation in one Division at no additional cost to members paying dues of \$3.00 or more.

"The A.L.A. provides a national voice for librarians which, because of its size and magnitude, commands the respect and attention of local authorities. That voice has repeatedly championed the interests of librarians and has been quoted to good effect by local administrators seeking increased recognition for their libraries and staffs after local protagonists had exhausted the force of their individual powers of persuasion.



## 14. "What's the matter with the Personnel Office?

Too much work - too small a staff! There has been an enormous demand on the Personnel Office so that the time of the staff has to be given almost wholly to willing positions, and other work of the Personnel Office has suffered. The staff and equipment are always inadequate because the Budget Committee and Executive Board have been unable to appropriate the funds needed. In addition to this, the Personnel Office has also suffered abnormally from vacancies and inexperience due to staff turn over. See April A.L.A. Bulletin p. 146."

LIBRARY  
UNIONS

Copies of a pamphlet on library unions have been sent to the officers of the A.L.A. and of its divisions and sections. The pamphlet is by Lynn Ashbrenner, published in 1944 and copy-righted by the American Federation of Labor. The pamphlet naturally raises arguments why librarians should organize and become members of labor unions. It emphasizes that there is a place for unions in this country as there is in Great Britain where they already have such organizations. It also cites a few cases in the United States where library chapters have been formed.

Whether or not we as junior college librarians could be benefited is still to be seen. Needless to say, there will be pressure brought in various communities throughout the United States where there are large numbers of librarians employed. Most junior college librarians find themselves working among members of the teaching profession rather than among other librarians, and for that reason it appears rather doubtful that we as a group could be benefited in any way.

COLLEGE LIBRARY  
REPRESENTATIVE  
AT A.L.A.

As early as 1930 there was agitation for a college library representative to be on the staff at A.L.A. headquarters. Although the A.L.A. executive board was in favor of the proposal at that time, there were no funds available for such an office. At various times the proposal has been brought up, but still the same situation has continued to exist, namely, no funds. During the past year due to various causes, it came to the fore again and on June 23 the directors of the A.C.R.L. met with the members of the A.L.A. executive board in Chicago to discuss the matter.

The minutes of that meeting show that the A.L.A. executive board is very sympathetic towards the proposal, yet they have other proposals on the agenda that need consideration also. A statement was prepared by Carl H. Milam, executive secretary of the A.L.A., for the officers of the A.C.R.L. to use in informing its members as to what the present situation is. His statement follows:

"I hope you will say that the representatives of the Executive Board were not only sympathetic to the establishment of this new service but recognized that the establishment of the service is an obligation to which the Association is committed. The officers stated that the Association is also definitely committed to the establishment of a research and statistical service and are convinced that a major expansion of the personnel activities and placement service is an obligation which cannot be avoided.

"The income next year will apparently be a little less than it has been this year. There is no apparent opportunity to provide funds for any of these activities out of regular funds unless certain other essential activities are discontinued.

"The Board is definitely committed to a policy of getting more funds rather than attempting to squeeze tighter the present limited budgets. It has engaged a man to represent it in opening up possible sources of funds and actually soliciting funds. The object is to obtain funds for general purposes, if possible, for special purposes if they are not available for



general purposes. Among the specific purposes at the top of the list is the college library advisory service. If general funds are obtained, the college library advisory service would be among the first to benefit from them.

"The officers of the A.L.A. expressed their desire to have A.C.R.L. participate in planning the activities and projects which will be of special interest to college and university libraries and also to participate in the soliciting funds which will make such activities possible."

GREETINGS | From Miss Blanche P. McCrum, president of the A.C.R.L. comes this greeting to the junior college librarians:

"Can you find space in your next News Letter to give my cordial greetings to your members, actual and potential? This letter of the Junior College Libraries Section is a fine document of which I am proud. . . .

"The future of our Association is in our own hands. It can be bright with promise if we put our creative ideas to work and if we stand together to give reality to our vision. We represent educational librarianship in all of its phases in a world sorely in need of the understanding that leads to public service. It may be later than we think to be about the business of more perfect integration of librarianship with teaching and learning in the atomic age. The A.C.R.L. needs the help of each of you in what is indeed a thrilling opportunity."

NEWS | Miss Mary Clay, the secretary of the Junior College Library Section has been  
ITEM | requested to serve with Dr. W. Stanley Hoole, Librarian of University of Alabama Library, on a committee to revise the Southern Association check-lists of reference books and periodicals.

MEMBERSHIP | This memo is addressed to those who are not members of the Junior College Library Section of the A.C.R.L. Although some of you may be members of the A.L.A. the Junior College Library Section feels that it can be of more value to you as junior college librarians if you are members of our section. As you know any member of the A.L.A. can become a member of our section PROVIDING you so indicate your intention on the third part of the application blank. There are no extra dues for the section but you MUST fill in both top lines of the third part of the application blank. "A.C.R.L." must be put on the top line and "Junior College Library" on the second line. Institutions, as well as individuals, can become members of the section so you will find two kinds of membership application blanks enclosed.

In 1940 Dr. Walter C. Eells, then executive secretary of the American Association of Junior Colleges, asked the officers of the Junior College Library Section of the A.L.A. to act in the same capacities for the Library Group of the A.A.J.C. so that the work of the two organizations would be coordinated and any unnecessary duplication would be eliminated. However, due to a misunderstanding at this time, we are unable to get any support from the A.A.J.C. for our work. For that reason all our expenses must come out of the funds we receive from the American Library Association.

In order to carry on our work through occasional issues of the News Letter and by holding worthwhile programs at the A.L.A. annual conventions we urge you to join the A.L.A. and especially the A.C.R.L. Division and its Junior College Library Section.

*Let us hear from you.* W.L.N.